

through other towns," he says, "we cannot fail to notice their side-walks flagged or bricked, and planted with every variety of trees, — elms, pines, hemlocks, oaks, maples, orange trees, every species of the palm tree, cocoa-nut tree, mahogany tree, banyan tree, &c., &c. Goodness gracious! how much more pleasant it must be to live in such cities than in these backwoods, where we can never see a palm tree or banyan tree, unless we see the pictures of them? (O my eyes! my eyes! Confound this pitch-pine, what makes it burn so dimly tonight? Why, I really believe father has soaked it in water, to prevent my writing against the Protector! Poor, honest father!) "Why should we not," asks the reverend writer, "have our side-walks bricked as well as planted with the choicest trees, and thus become an ornament and a healthful promenade to our citizens?" Here he clearly states that if we follow his directions of bricking and planting, we ourselves shall become a healthful promenade. Thank you, Mr. Editor, for your suggestions, but we do not like to be trampled upon by men. There is, I think, another trifling incongruity in this sentence. He recommends us to have our side-walks bricked and planted with trees. Now every skillful agriculturist knows that a soil of bricks is far from being the most favorable for the growth of trees. "We know nothing" (I thought not) "to prevent our progress or improvement if we are only united and are willing to lay aside," &c. The writer has "progress or improvement" in this sentence; in another he has "improvement or advancement," in another "confession or acknowledgment." Now, I think I could string together a greater number of synonyms than these, were I to try. He should be substituted for each of the two *ares* which I have italicized. "Improvement has connected with it two very important particulars — perception of what is wanting and acknowledgment of error." Did the rev. gentlemen ever learn the meaning of the word "particulars." "If then we remain either ignorant of our errors and deficiencies, or will not acknowledge them when they are pointed out to us, how can we improve, or what hope is there of our becoming better?" Conjunctions couple the same tenses of verbs when the nominative is not repeated, but here we find the present tense "remain" and the future tense "will acknowledge" coupled by "or," and then we have the synonymous expressions "improve" and "get better." In the next sentence we have the relative pronoun "which" referring to the antecedent "officers."

Here I finish, not because the subject is exhausted, for I have not yet exposed more than the half of the absurdities that this one article contains, but because my letter has already exceeded the ordinary limits of newspaper communications. The consciousness that I have done my duty in endeavoring to rid my country of one intolerable nuisance, gives me an inward satisfaction which it is not easy to express. Instead, however, of the gratitude of the people whom I have endeavored to benefit, I anticipate in return for my purely disinterested services only the prejudice of the ignorant laity and the anathemas of the clergy. I suppose the editorial committee of the Protector will offer up a prayer in my behalf somewhat similar in construction to Holy Writers:—

"And when we chastened him therefore,
Thou know'st how he bred sic a splere
As set the world in a roar
A laughing at us;
Curse, then, his basket and his store,
Kail and potatoes."

Sept. 14, 1857. FREE CHURCHMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

DEAR SIR,—Having heard there was a reaping-machine on the farm of the Hon. Geo. Coles, I was anxious to ascertain whether the report I heard of its efficiency was correct or not. I proceeded a few days ago to Mr. Coles's farm while the machine was at work, and although something of a mechanic, I had no idea grain could be cut down at such a rate, (about an acre an hour); and it appeared to me it made very little difference whether the grain was lodged or not, for the machine cut all before it, keeping about nine persons (only two of them men) as busy as niggers gathering and binding. No one who farms to any extent ought to be without one of these machines, as it mows as well as reaps. After inspecting the machine, as a matter of course, being a farmer, I was anxious to see the Hon. Secretary's farm, of which I had heard so much; and no wonder, for I never on this Island saw finer crops, particularly of turnips. The hay crop appeared also to have been extremely good, if one may judge from the aftermath. I was informed 150 tons of hay had been housed, all in excellent order. But how does it happen that Mr. Coles can, with apparently little or no trouble, procure the labour necessary for the cultivation of so large a farm, and for saving the crops? Does he pay them better than other people? Does he feed them better? Will you try and find out Mr. Editor, and inform your subscribers?

Prince County, Sept. 5, 1857. FARMER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—The editorial which appeared in the last issue of the Examiner, under the caption of "The Public Bankruptcy," demands a brief notice at my hands. When the political and personal predilections of the individuals composing the Board of Directors of the Bank of Prince Edward Island are considered with reference to their opposition to the Government, it is not difficult to conjecture that the writer of the article to which I refer, if not one of the Board, has at least been in close communication with some of those worthies. It may be, even with those who, if I am credibly informed, while recently in Nova Scotia, used their little influence to damage the public character of the country, which has fostered them and theirs for generations; and this for two reasons, one of which is to be found in the fact, that the Government is in the hands of their once despised opponents, who have driven them from power and place, which for long they considered the heritable privilege of themselves and their dependents. It is well known that the Directors of the Bank have, for some time past, been incessant in their endeavours to injure the present Government, by depreciating the public credit, arguing by implication, if not by positive assertion, that there was no security to the public creditor but in the return to power of those who took the public money to shave the public warrants, who screened a defaulting Treasurer, and in order that his defalcations should be hidden, actually locked the chest for days while his deficiencies were being made good by his personal and political friends. These parties long for a recurrence of the good old times when no check was kept on the amount of Treasury Notes issued, which quite accidentally were found to exceed those supposed by the uninitiated to have been put into circulation, and which their successors in office had to redeem.

The statement to the effect, that the Island Government sought to obtain £500 from that of New Brunswick, to help them out of their insolvency, is, I have every reason to believe, a downright falsehood; and I call upon the author, be he the professed Editor of the Examiner, or any of the Directors of the Bank, to produce a title of proof of his assertion. No communication on such a subject has taken place between the two Governments; and really we cannot be so very badly off after all, if so small a sum as £500 would extricate us from our financial difficulties. Really some of our very wealthy Tories, from the accumulation of plunder, public and private, which lined their pockets in the days of auld lang syne, might advance as much for the purpose of keeping the mill going, until the political millennium when they shall be in a position to take toll.

But, Sir, from the most reliable information which I can obtain, the Government are in possession of good and sufficient bonds to the amount of some £30,000, and as those bonds will soon become due, it will perhaps be found that our Treasury Warrants are at least as safe investments as the notes of a Bank which a gentleman recently so frightened from its propriety, by demanding redemption of its paper to the amount of about £1,500, that sooner than lose the glittering sovereigns, its Directors sanctioned the discount of paper it had previously refused! That Bank is required by its Act of Incorporation to have at least £15,000 in specie in its vaults at all times. I may be permitted to ask, if that

amount were to be found even by a constable with a search warrant, at the end of last month. Dame Rumour ass'ges some £13,000 as the available resource with which to meet some £34,000 of Bank paper afloat.

To show the feeling entertained towards the Government by the Directors of the Bank, as well as their mode of transacting business, I will state a fact which I know cannot be contradicted. During the summer the Bank was applied to to cash a certain amount of Treasury Warrants, as it had previously done. The application was made by letter, but one whole month elapsed before the Directors condescended to give an answer, and then the answer was in the negative. There is no doubt that the delay was designed to bring doubt and embarrassment on the Government; but the latter, well understanding the class of persons they had to deal with, sought and obtained the accommodation elsewhere.

When the parties who so pertinaciously decry the credit of their country whenever the control of its destinies is not confided to their "itching palms," shall have shown the wonderful extent of their individual resources, by being relieved from the necessity of borrowing in a neighbouring Province the amount required by law to be deposited in their shaving shop, to obtain which it became necessary for their delegates to depreciate the Government securities, lest, if the true state of the case were known, such securities might command a preference over any which the Bank might offer, it will be time enough for the Liberals to give heed to the scribes of the Examiner.

I am, your obedient servant,
Charlottetown, Sept. 19. FAIR PLAY.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROTECTOR.

GENTLEMEN,—In your last issue you have, I perceive, admitted an address to the Rev. Charles Lloyd and his answer thereto, as also an accompanying note from myself, requesting, in my own and others' names, your insertion of the same. In so doing, I should suppose you have simply fulfilled your duty as public journalists; but excuse me for remarking, that your editorial heading to my note is presumptuous and most arrogant interference, "to say the least."

I know you not, Gentlemen, by name, or what your various schismatical religious opinions may be, but beg to inform you, as a member of the Anglican Church, that your uncalled-for and impertinent strictures on certain members of a Church you do not even profess to belong to, are entirely worthy of a journal that has hitherto enjoyed an uninterrupted and unenviable notoriety for intense uncharitableness and despicable ignorance.

Hoping, Gentlemen, I may never have need to trouble you again,
I remain your obedient servant,
STEPHEN SWABEY.

The Feast of Saint Matthew, 1857, CHARLOTTETOWN.

P. S.—Allow me to add, that being aware that you, sometimes at least, refuse to admit into your columns that which you conceive militates against your most positive and pitiable bigotry, I take the liberty of requesting your more liberal contemporaries to give my letter to you a place in his No. of to-day.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., SEPTEMBER 21, 1857.

THE PUBLIC CREDIT.

Most public writers, like debaters and other people, have their hobbies, which they are ready to ride with unflagging zeal whenever an opportunity offers. Finance is that which the editor of the Examiner has long since selected for his entertainment, and numerous and startling have been the exhibitions which he has made of himself and it; but the exhibition of Friday last throws all former attempts into the shade. The article headed "The Public Bankruptcy" is quite a curiosity. Indeed, we are sure we have nowhere read so much nonsense in the same space, coupled with so many untruths and perversions of fact that are positively ludicrous from their extravagance. What constitutes the great charm of all Mr. Maclean's financial speculations is, that they almost invariably refer to matters which are dreamt of in the philosophy of no one but the sapient writer. The want of correct information respecting the conduct of Government in financial affairs, is not only no hindrance to his stringing together long disquisitions on those affairs, in the most authoritative tone, but he is always more prone to criticise the acts of the administration when most ignorant of them.

The last production of our contemporary in the financial line sets out with the announcement, which was intended to take his readers by surprise, that the Treasury Warrants advertised, in the usual way, as having been paid off in August last, were not exchanged for cash or Treasury notes, but for Import bonds. Really this is very astounding intelligence, particularly as we all know that it is a rule of the Government, though not the law, to receive warrants when presented in payment of duties; and particularly too, as we stated in this paper two weeks ago, that nearly all the warrants cancelled during the present year were cancelled in the way described. Now, if the Liberal Government refused, as their Tory predecessors had often done, to take warrants in payment of duty bonds, the merchants would have been compelled to pay cash, and the cash thus received could have been applied to the liquidation of long out-standing warrants. But it would not answer the private purposes of the old Tory party to afford warrant-holders such accommodation. Several in the Government, in former days, speculated with the public moneys as well as their own; and if warrants were hard to be cashed, as it was the desire of those parties to make them, the discount was of course heavier, and the interest of the money jobber was proportionally increased. Now, we find by enquiry, that since the close of the Legislative Session in April last warrants to the amount of £25,000 have been cancelled—a sum equal to the best year's revenue of the country under the Tory Government,—and, as we before intimated, a large proportion of this amount was on warrants issued on the faith of a revenue to be collected from 3 to 15 months after the warrants were issued. It could never have been contemplated that warrants issued to pay off debts accruing were to be responded to in cash from the Treasury, before the revenue was collected which should give the cash. It is absurd to think then that any Government—under our present financial system which allows to the tax-payer a credit of from three to fifteen months—could pay in one year the warrants issued for two years' revenue; that is, for example, the warrants issued under the Appropriation Bill of last year, and the warrants issued under the Appropriation Bill of this year—a large proportion of the revenue for which will not be collected until next year. And this is precisely what the Examiner, in the blindness of its partisan zeal, complains of our Government not doing; and on account of which it sets up the senseless howl, that the Treasury is empty, and the Government bankrupt! Now the fact is, that the financial condition of the Government is such as to give rise to no apprehension, and indeed, perhaps,

in the most flourishing times could not be better. It is not the Treasury only which is scant of cash, but the Colony generally. If merchants would pay their duties in cash instead of giving bonds at long credit, it would be incumbent on the Government to give cash for all warrants, whenever it should be demanded. The cry about insolvency might be retorted with terrible force upon some of the Examiner's special patrons. If business were brisk, and cash plenty in the country there would be no difficulty about changing warrants; but whatever capital there is in the place, and which formerly found investment in warrants, is now locked up in Bank stock. As the Examiner has accused the Government of "producing public embarrassment unexampled in the Colony," we may presume that in its next article on finance, they will be charged with the failure of the ship-building trade—the general depression of business of all kinds—the stoppage of discounts at the Bank, and the smash of mercantile establishments.

We have intimated that the financial affairs of the Government, instead of indicating insolvency, could not, under the circumstances of the country, be more flourishing. At the annual audit in January last the balance of our public debt was £22,000. This balance included the cost incurred for the purchase of the Worell and Lot 11 Estates, and also £11,500 Treasury Notes which bear no interest. To meet the debt there were bonds for lands sold to the amount of £10,000, besides about 50,000 acres of unsold land—a state of the public finances which might be fairly said to indicate the existence of no public debt. How different was the aspect of affairs when the Liberals came into power about six years ago! The debt of the Colony at that time amounted to nearly thirty thousand pounds, and there were no assets of any description to meet it.

We have not yet noticed the most amusing parts of the Examiner's leading article, which illustrate the profound ignorance in which it was written. In the first place, we are told, with every mark of asperity, that our Government made "a disgraceful attempt" "to overreach" the Executive of New Brunswick in the matter of £500, said to have been voted by that Province for the encouragement of Steam Communication;—and in the next place, that our Government fearfully "transcended their powers" in endeavoring "to borrow £6000 secretly from the Bank of Nova Scotia." The editor of the Examiner has been sadly hoaxed in reference to both these matters. We state, on the best authority, that there is no foundation whatever for the ridiculous tale about the £500. None but the most gullible of mankind would have thought of putting such a result in print, without first making the fullest enquiry—(the result of which would have, of course, prevented him from printing such nonsense)—and no class of readers but those of the Examiner would quietly submit to such a barefaced imposition on their understanding.

The story about borrowing £6000 from a Nova Scotia Bank is equally untrue. That there was some intercourse respecting money matters between one of the Halifax Banks and a Government official of this Island, we do not deny; and lest the Examiner should be inclined to perpetrate more nonsense on the subject, we will state the particulars. Mr. Young having occasion to go to Halifax, about a month ago, on his private business, was induced to inquire at one of the banks there whether some Treasury Warrants, authorised to be issued for the road service and for education, could be cashed, just as road warrants had been cashed by the Bank of Prince Edward Island a few months before. At this time several thousand pounds of the grants for roads and bridges, and for education, remained unexpended; and as there could be no difficulty in the way of the Government issuing all the warrants at once for the whole amount of those grants, the cash, could it be procured for the warrants, might be paid at once to schoolmasters and contractors, instead of giving them small warrants, as had been the custom, which left the holders to some extent at the mercy of the money shavers. The Government did not require to be told that they had no power to contract a loan without the consent of the Legislature; but giving warrants, made in accordance with last Session's appropriation, looked certainly very unlike borrowing money. Some of those very warrants—which the Bank of Nova Scotia declined to take—and which the Bank of P. E. Island could not, though they were glad to get the same description of paper a few months ago at the light shave of one per cent.—have since been taken by persons belonging to the Tory party, without their feeling the slightest misgiving with regard to the security on which those warrants were based. The Road Service is now fully provided for—the requisite number of warrants for that service has been converted into cash—and the Government is independent of Banks and money shavers. In a few weeks, as the land tax shall begin to find its way to the Treasury chest, schoolmasters' warrants will cease to be endorsed for interest; and the respectable attempt so industriously made by the Examiner and others to sow distrust and discontent amongst the employees of Government, and to injure its credit abroad—will, if remembered, only excite loathing and execration amongst the people on whom the deception was sought to be practised.

JEMMY IN FITS.

We give the following choice extract from the leading article in the last No. of the Monitor:—

"It is really beyond endurance, that a mere political adventurer, like Edward Whelan, who has, from the day on which he first set his foot upon our shores, friendless and penniless, been unceasing in his endeavors to sow anarchy and discord amongst a thriving, peaceable, and contented community,—who has for years been guilty of vilifying and stigmatising in the most unmeasured terms the characters and motives of the respectable, intelligent, and honest portion of the inhabitants of this Colony, almost without exception, unchecked and unchallenged,—one whose moral character is notoriously not worth a straw,—it is really too bad, we say, that an individual of this description, after belaboring two of our correspondents most unmercifully, should have the audacity and assurance to turn round and read us a homily on our duties as the conductors of a public journal, and 'a dissertation on the beauties of filial piety!' This is about the coolest piece of impertinence we have met with for some time."

We leave our readers to picture to themselves the state of mind in which the foregoing passage was written. Rant, splutter and phrenzy bubble and froth through every line. How terribly the three-legged stool, which is made to do duty for an editorial chair in the Monitor office, must have rocked with indignation! How Jemmy stamped and tore his hair, and scowled at all intruders—not excepting the Printer's Devil! How terribly severe he meant to be, and how supremely ridiculous he has succeeded in making himself! We found a cap for him, which fits him to a nicety, but we did wrong in not sending a straight-jacket along with it. The last Examiner was too strongly charged with excitable matter for his

feeble mental organization. The perusal of one short paragraph alone threw the unfortunate man into fits.

We are pleased to learn that, after a little timely and judicious treatment, his usual placidity of temper has returned, and that he is now suffered to go at large at his own accord, without having to submit to the disagreeable necessity of getting his head shaved, or his arms pinioned lest he should inflict some bodily injury on himself or others. This being the happy corporeal state of our elder brother, there can be no danger in reading him a short "homily" on the absurdity of some of his late phrenzied exclamations.

In the fullness of his wrath he called us a "political adventurer." We don't object to the designation. In all countries and all times some of the best and ablest men have been "political adventurers"—from Alexander the Great down to James B. Cooper the Little. Caesar was a political adventurer when he set foot upon Britain, and by the force of his genius and the power of his legions converted the country from Druidical barbarism to Roman civilization. William of Normandy, to whom and to whose followers Englishmen are so fond of tracing their descent, was a political adventurer of no mean calibre, when at the battle of Hastings he overthrew the old Saxon monarchy. James the First was a political adventurer when, by the favor of Elizabeth, he brought hordes of his poor Scotch dependents to dispossess the English of their estates and to fill their public employments. Cromwell was a political adventurer when he took up arms against "the anointed of the Lord," and usurped sovereign power, which he exercised as no English monarch has ever done. William of Orange was a political adventurer when he left the Netherlands to rob his father-in-law of the throne, and to change the laws, manners and religion of a people for whom he had no sympathy or affection. But wherefore multiply examples familiar to every school-boy? History teems with the names of political adventurers whose achievements are enshrined in story and in song. Columbus was a political adventurer when by his great discovery he laid the foundation of empires and republics in the western world. Pizarro and his followers were political adventurers when the dynasty and the countless treasures of the Peruvian Incas fell a sacrifice to his avarice and lust of power. Cortez was a political adventurer when the empire of the Aztecs was made to succumb to the strong arms of the Spanish cavaliers. What nonsense it is to speak of political adventurers in terms of reprobation and contempt, as if no one was entitled to the designation but a parish politician, seeking to set up one set of parish rulers for another, and as if it were a criminal act for him to attempt anything of the kind. Britain herself has been, in all ages, since she was capable of exercising an aggressive policy, an unscrupulous political adventurer in every part of the world, civilized and savage; and every other Power, that has had strength sufficient, has manifested the like spirit of adventure.

To descend from nations to individuals, what, in fact, is any man but an adventurer from the moment he enters the political arena? Were the Tories of this little place born to the possession of power, with a divine right to transmit it to their posterity, that nobody should adventure to displace them? Did the Havilands and Ereckens and Hodgsons, and all the off-shoots of the old Family Compact, receive a patent from the Almighty to fill the various offices of this little State for all time to come, and to hire a jackanapes like J. B. Cooper to frown down, by contemptuous allusions to his origin, any man who may have the courage and hardihood to court the public favor? We will not follow the bad example of the Monitor, by tracing the lowly origin of some now prominent members of the Tory party, and show how small were their claims to consideration and respect when they began their career as political adventurers. Success crowned their earlier efforts, and they have had their day. We are now living through ours, and the great sin that we commit in the eyes of the Tory party lies in the fact, that our day seems long in coming to a close. He of the Monitor is labouring to be a successful adventurer like ourselves; and should time in its mutations ever bring to him a realization of his present hopes and aspirations, we trust it will bring with it sense enough to be ashamed of the petulance (to use no harder term) with which he attempts to rebuke the conduct of an individual whose career in political adventuring he would be only too glad to copy.

The very opulent editor of the Monitor assures his readers that we were "friendless and penniless" when we first set foot upon the Island. Well, we have yet to learn that poverty is disgraceful—we have yet to learn, too, that James B. Cooper is so immensely rich that he can afford to sneer at others on the score of their pecuniary circumstances; and it would be news to us to be told that all, or indeed any, of his present patrons, commenced their adventurous career with an abundance of cash in their pockets. Those silver spoons from which the first Tory sucklings of this Island guzzled down their pay, would be exceedingly rare curiosities at the present day. We shall only further remark, that when a man succeeds as a political adventurer, beginning without money and without friends, the fact of his success is more creditable to his energy and perseverance than if he had begun political life rich as Cressus.

As to our "endeavors to sow anarchy and discord," &c., if the Monitor means by this our opposition to the old Tory Faction which sought to perpetuate in the country of our adoption an arbitrary and tyrannical Government, we acknowledge the correctness of the statement, and beg to intimate that our "endeavours" have not been unsuccessful. The charge of "vilifying, stigmatising," and so on, comes with excellent grace from an individual who has just hired himself out to a secret society, for the purposes of slander and defamation, his peculiar intellect being well adapted for such employment from its long exercise in the filtering of every species of moral impurity.

But that which has most terribly convulsed the small soul of our respectable contemporary, and has given such a strong tinge to the flood of his dirty vituperation, is the unpleasant reminiscence—gently touched by us—regarding this subject, although Mr. Cooper challenges investigation. We think Mr. Warburton's letter, in another column, ought to satisfy him, and all others who may choose to accept his invitation of making an enquiry into some of his private affairs. Mr. Warburton's statement, it will be seen, rests on the word of Mr. Cooper's mother; and we can only say, that the conduct of the son appears to us now in a worse light than it previously did, for not content with wresting her worldly possessions, the treasure of a good name which gold cannot buy has evidently no value in the opinion of a son who could publicly ignore the veracity of a mother.

The Protector is exceedingly kind, and pious too, in directing the Government to the way in which it should go to be pleasing in the sight of its Divinity Corps Editorial. Would these model people be unoffended if we observe to them, that with respect to a season Public Thanksgiving they may possibly be a little out of season in securing a harvest before it is gathered. Doubtless these wise men know, that the wise monarch of Israel said, "there is a time for all things." And we ask, would it put their saintly patience to a severe test, or chafo their sanctified metal, to bide the time when the season shall have arrived at its full fruition in fruits of the earth? Cannot their burning zeal be for a while subjected to a cooling ordeal, even down to a cucumber temperature? We think it might. And they would not be a whit the worse of the cool, nor would the inhabitants be less thankful. Did the reverend corps at any time hear, or has it ever come to their knowledge, that about the time in autumn when all the fields have yielded their treasures into the store-houses of the husbandman, the Governor has annually called upon the inhabitants, by proclamation, to observe a specified day as one of Public Fasting and General Thanksgiving to the Great Parent of good? If his bounty to us in the produce of the land? If their reverences have not heard, or do not know this fact, we would respectfully apprise them of it; and we entreat these brethren not to permit their holy anxiety to inflict upon their sleepless nights and aching heads, about a matter which we believe their hot-haste cannot expedite, nor their officious zeal accelerate. Take it coolly then, gentlemen, and be satisfied that the time is coming when you will be called upon to join in a Public Fast and Thanksgiving for the harvest home; and we hope you will be ready to accept the invitation in all meekness and humility, which Christian virtues we commend to your special study.—Con.